



# Central United Methodist Church

## *A Reconciling Congregation*

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

July 20, 2025

## **Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

### **OUR WELCOMING STATEMENT**

Central United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation. Regardless of your race, ethnicity, immigration status, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic situation, age, ability, belief, or background, whether you are single or partnered, you are God's beloved and you are welcome here.

### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

We envision Central United Methodist Church as a vital, diverse, River of Life nurtured by the light of Christ, rooted deeply in and living the scriptures, a holy presence in the center of the City of Detroit, transforming individuals, institutions, and the world, advocating peace and justice in all we do.

\* Indicates when to stand, if able in body or in spirit. \*\*Please silence cell phones.  
Hymnal Guide: W&S=Worship & Song, UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal,  
TFWS = The Faith We Sing

### **PRELUDE**

Augustus Williamson & Brandon Reeves

*The Prelude and the Postlude are times for silent prayer and meditation guided by some of our gifted musicians.*

## **ACTS OF WELCOME**

### **WELCOME**

#### **\*OPENING PRAYER**

**Jesus, guest in our homes and our hearts, you meet us in the middle of our busyness. You see the tension we carry—between doing and being, between urgency and presence.**

**Still our minds.**

**Center our heart.**

**Calm our bodies**

**Help us choose the one thing that matters most. Amen.**

## OPENING HYMN

*Come and Find the Quiet Center*

TFWS #2128

1. Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,  
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:  
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see  
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.
2. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,  
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base,  
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,  
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.
3. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,  
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:  
There's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,  
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray; MUSIC: Attr. to B. F. White; Words © 1992; Hope Publishing Co.; CCLI 2815228

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PASSING THE PEACE

Augustus Williamson & Brandon Reeves

## ACTS OF SHARING

### GREETINGS AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS



Please help us know you were here in worship today by scanning the QR code above with your phone. There is also a place for notes and prayer requests for the pastor.

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Deaconess Anne Hillman

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

*Come to Me* by Dan Forrest

Laura Burger



For electronic giving, please use this QR Code

**DOXOLOGY:** Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Holy One.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### ANTHEM

*Open the Eyes of My Heart*

Laura Burger

## ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

### \*SCRIPTURE

*Luke 10:38-42*

As they traveled, Jesus entered a village where a woman named Martha welcomed him to her home. She had a sister named Mary, who seated herself at Jesus' feet and listened to his words.

Martha, who was busy with all the details of hospitality, came to Jesus and said, "Rabbi, don't you care that my sister has left me all alone to do the household tasks? Tell her to help me!"

Jesus replied, "Martha, Martha! You're anxious and upset about so many things, but only a few things are necessary—really only one. Mary has chosen the better part, and she won't be deprived of it."

ONE: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

### MESSAGE

*Jesus In Real Life: Jesus as House Guest*

Rev. Paul Perez

### \*CLOSING HYMN

*Bless the arms that comfort*

1. Bless the arms that comfort, strong to shoulder care,  
gentle in their healing, reaching through despair.  
Bless the hands that labor Martha's daily deeds;  
Mary's precious ointment, balm for different needs.
2. Bless the ears that listen, sharing joys and fears—  
laughing in our triumphs, weeping with our tears.  
Bless the eyes whose wisdom sees through pride's façade,  
cherishing our weakness with the heart of God.
3. Bless the feet that follow, like Naomi's Ruth—  
constant friend through sorrow, speaking holy truth:  
Though our journeys lead us far in time and space,  
God anoints companions, ministers of grace.

# **BENEDICTION**

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## **POSTLUDE**

Brandon Reeves

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Rev. Paul Perez, Lead Minister

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus

Deaconess Anne Hillman, Ph.D. Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries Guest

Margaret Reese, Director of Music

Brandon Reeves, Collaborative Pianist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Angela Bakeley, Receptionist

Dave Wilson, Maintenance Manager

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This service is live-streamed under CCLI STREAM PLUS 21469425

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## **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

Central United Methodist Church acknowledges that the building in which we carry out our collective life together occupies and is built upon land that is part of what was first known as Waawiyaataanong (“At the curved shores.”), the ancestral and contemporary homeland of the Three Fires Confederacy, but which is now referred to as Detroit. In 1807 the Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi, and Wyandot nations granted use of these sovereign lands to the US government through the Treaty of Detroit. Central United Methodist Church affirms the continued Indigenous sovereignty over these lands and honors all tribes with a connection to Detroit. We commit ourselves to working together with our native brothers and sisters to advance equity in all dimensions of life and to promote a better future for the earth and all its peoples. (Adopted by the Ministry Team - April 22, 2021)